



1727 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

# GOJI

Vol. 77 No. 10



OCTOBER 2022  
NEWSLETTER

of the  
Honpa Hongwanji  
Hawaii Betsuin  
[hawaiibetsuin.org](http://hawaiibetsuin.org)

2022 Slogan:

“Building Healthy  
Sanghas: Connecting  
with Others”

BETSUIN  
MINISTERS

Acting Chief Minister  
Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Ministerial Staff  
Rev. Sol Kalu  
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

## Betsuin and Project Dana to Observe Dana Awareness Day

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin observes Dana Awareness Day on October 23, 2022. Dana is the Sanskrit word for selfless giving, and it is one of the six perfections of wisdom or paramitas that all aspiring for Buddhahood need to cultivate. The practice of giving is universally recognized as one of the most basic human virtues. In the teachings of the Buddha, the practice of giving is said to be, in a sense, the foundation and seed of spiritual development. During the Buddha's time in India, he always taught and emphasized the virtue of giving before any other practice. The Buddha regarded giving as a very important foundation for later advanced spiritual practice.

The Hawaii Betsuin Project Dana will be hosting the Dana Awareness Day hybrid service starting at 10:00 am. The guest speaker is Dr. Nina Guerrero, the Clinical Director of Sounding Joy Music Therapy. The message will focus on the impact of music on dementia and Alzheimer's patients and its application in enhancing the quality of life for children and adults with various physical and mental health issues including autism and substance recovery. As part of the service, the Project Dana Dancers will perform a dance, “Aloha Oe,” choreographed by Lehua Matsuoka.

After the service, a box lunch and beverage will be provided in the social hall for those attending the service. Please join us in this important and meaningful service of selfless giving awareness. A collection for the Betsuin Youth Programs will be held.

## Betsuin Resumes Buddhist Services at Maluhia



*Rev. Hasebe expresses gratitude for being back at Maluhia Hospital after a long absence!*

On September 28, the Hawai'i Betsuin was pleased to return to Maluhia Hospital to resume monthly Buddhist Services for the residents in long term care. After nearly a three year shutdown due to the pandemic, residents and staff welcomed Rev. Yuika Hasebe and Project Dana coordinator, Jo des-Marets, to the first floor lanai where the service was held. Following Maluhia's current COVID protocols for visitors, Sensei and Jo were tested for COVID and issued hospital-grade masks and face shields that they were required to wear at all times while in the hospital. A couple of issues came

continued on page 7

## Mahalo to all who participated in Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gift Program!



As of September 29, 2022,  
the Betsuin has received  
\$6187.00  
(the program ended September 30)



The **GOJI** is a monthly publication of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Tel. (808) 536-7044. There is no newsletter published for the month of August.

### DEADLINE:

Articles must be submitted no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication by e-mail ([goji@hawaiiibetsuin.org](mailto:goji@hawaiiibetsuin.org)), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (808-536-0919). Address submissions to the **GOJI**. Please include your name and contact information. Original images should be labeled on the reverse side with caption and return information.

The opinions expressed by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.

### GOJI STAFF:

Editorial: *Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev. Shingo Furusawa, Japanese section editor* Production: *Colleen Kunishige, David Atcheson; Circulation: Colleen Kunishige, Elmer Cagaoan; Contributing reporters from Hongwanji Mission School, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School & Parents, Project Dana, Wednesday Gang and Gals, Green Team, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pacific Buddhist Academy, Betsuin Board and Social Concerns, and the Kyodan.*

## Dharma Message: Rev. Shingo Furusawa "Nembutsu Is the Calling from Amida"



Recitation of "Namo Amida Butsu" or Nembutsu has several meanings. Now, I would like to explain about one of the meanings, that is, it is the calling voice from Amida Buddha. "Namo" means rely on, and "Amida Butsu" means Amida Buddha, so basically, "Namo Amida Butsu" means we rely on the Buddha. Shinran Shonin found a deeper meaning, that is, it is the calling voice of Amida saying, "Please rely on me!" So when reciting the Nembutsu, we can always listen to Amida Buddha's calling.

"Gassho To Amida" states:

When I'm lonely I recite  
Namo Amida Butsu  
Then I feel Great Compassion  
I gassho to Amida.

In our lives, we have a lot of hardships, difficulties, and sorrow. When nothing we do works, we feel alone. However, we are NEVER alone. Amida Buddha is always by our side and always calls out to us, "I am always with you. Don't be afraid. Go for it!"  
In Gassho.

## October 2022 Betsuin Speaker Schedule

If you have any questions, please call the Betsuin office (808) 536-7044

10/2

8:00AM	Japanese	Rev. Yuika Hasebe
9:00AM	DS	Rev. Shingo Furusawa
10:00AM	English	Rev. Sol Kalu

10/9

8:00AM	Japanese:	Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
9:00AM	DS	Rev. Yuika Hasebe
10:00AM	English	Rev. Shingo Furusawa

10/16

8:00AM	Japanese	Rev. Shingo Furusawa
9:00AM	DS	No DS due to Joint service with Jikoen
10:00AM	English	Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki

10/23

8:00AM	Japanese	Rev. Ryoso Toshima
9:00AM	DS	Rev. Sol Kalu
10:00AM	English	Dr. Nina Guerrero / Rev. Yuika Hasebe

10/30

8:00AM	Japanese	Rev. Yuika Hasebe
9:00AM	DS	DS Teacher (Chanting: Rev. Furusawa)
10:00AM	English	Mr. Rod Moriyma

## President's Message



### Letter from Alan Tomita, Hawaii Betsuin Board President

Hi all!

In a few weeks, your Betsuin Officers and Directors will be conducting a strategic planning session that will be addressing the future of our temple. What are we trying to preserve? How will we go about preserving what we want? What will be the financial requirements?

For over a hundred years, the temple has survived through the donations and efforts of its members and friends. We have been able to provide religious services, guidance, and education over those years. The temple has subsidized many programs, such as Dharma School, the Hongwanji Mission School (HMS), Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts, with the intent of propagating Buddhist teachings and values. Over the last 36 years that I have been associated with the Board of Directors, it was always stressed that the temple would provide facilities, including all repair and maintenance, for these programs.

Over a decade ago, the temple's budget did include monies for the support of these programs. However, due to the decline of income for the temple, leaders of these programs voluntarily gave up any monetary subsidy that used to be in the temple's annual budget. The largest chunk of money that was removed from the budget was the repair and maintenance expenses for the HMS facilities, which has totaled well over \$100,000 in some years.

Today, as we evaluate the temple's financial status to see how it will survive in the future, one subject has come up. This proposal is to start charging usage fees for our facilities. Previously, the temple did not rent out its facilities to the public but chose to have them more available to temple members and affiliates like HMS and the scouts.

My two children attended HMS and participated in the scouting programs as they grew up. I can attest that all the programs were essential to how my children developed, especially with their character building using Buddhist values. I think hundreds, if not thousands, of other parents would agree with me on this. The children of HMS and the scouts have always received the best of comments/praises as representatives of Hawaii Betsuin. Therefore, I strongly feel that the temple should continue to subsidize these programs in some ways to allow them to continue. The scouting program, for all the benefits that the temple reaps from the scouts and their parents, should be left as is with no changes.

As for HMS, discussions have started with regard to how it can be more supportive of the temple, both spiritually and financially. This will most likely be addressed in the upcoming strategic planning session.

Until a new resolution or plan is developed, the temple will still need to depend on your yearly donations, especially if we want to continue subsidizing our existing programs. You should have received a letter asking for your End of Year donation. That donation will help us greatly with the rebuilding process. Thank you.

In Gassho,  
Alan

## Message from the Executive Director: Jon Matsuoka



I have been on the job at Hawai'i Betsuin about half a year now. Despite its many challenges, along with the good parts, I feel fortunate to work at a place where meaning goes beyond earning a paycheck. The good parts include friendly and open-minded people, sense of place and community identity, member/affiliate and staff commitment to creating a healthy and vibrant Sangha. The bad parts, well, are the opposite of the good parts. But working for a cause at a place of virtue brings a different kind of awareness and work attitude. When faced with temple challenges, my internal voice reminds me to practice tolerance, calm, diplomacy, honesty. Instead of getting upset and angry, it tells me to take a moment and a step back to think of ways to defuse and graciously engage the situation. Working here gives me ample opportunity to practice non-attachment and to self-correct when I feel anger or frustration welling up inside.

Working at or being affiliated with a Bud-

dhist temple should never be a mindless habit, but a mindful practice. It is not a place to impart troubled energies and excuses of imperfection, but where we come to reflect and effect change in ourselves. By doing so we honor the sanctity of place and the dedication and piety of all who came before. As a community of worship that professes compassion and peace, we must always be aware of how our thoughts and actions align with lessons from the lectern. Building a healthy Sangha starts at the level of internalizing and manifesting Buddhist precepts. I like to ask, "if peace and harmony cannot be found at a Buddhist temple, then where can it?" Virtue is more than an ideation—it is a discipline of persistent practice. Given the profoundness of our principles, the temple can be a model of peace for Hawai'i and the world. Should that ever happen, propagation and sustainability would never be in question.

As we imagine a peaceful society, we should be reminded that unity begins with us, with our Sangha. What we see in others depends on what we're looking for. It's just as easy to see good in people and situations as it is to see negative. But centering on positive is a reflection of our state of mindfulness and a lot more satisfying. Since taking the job at the temple, I have met many fine people. I have also met very fine people with quirky qualities. But I haven't met any dark hearts with onerous intent. Some people are big-picture visionaries and some are detail-oriented technocrats. Some are risktakers and some are risk adverse. What I mostly see is a mix of dedicated folks who believe we must change and adapt to go on. They might have different notions of the future and how to get there, but in my humble opinion, the passion and commitment to work at it is a fine beginning point.

### BWA News   BWA Gratitude   Cindy Alm, President

As the season turns to autumn, we are grateful for a busy and joyful summer. Thank you for your continued support and participation.

Field Trip. Thank you to our members and 'ohana who participated in our field trip to Waikiki Aquarium. It was good to see everyone.

Fabric Sale: Mahalo to our BWA members, Sangha and the community for supporting our fabric clearance sale. It was a fun was fun connecting with you!

Honolulu United BWA Education Conference and Membership Meeting. The program featuring a panel presentation on Micronesia was educational and helped us make new connections.

#### **BWA Upcoming Events:**

Oct 9, Ministers' Appreciation Day

Oct 30, Fourth General Membership Meeting & Election

Dec 11, BWA Year-End Party

May 2023, BWA 17th World Convention and Joint Celebration, Kyoto, Japan

### Betsuin Bon Dancercise Wednesday Nights

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

in the Main Social Hall

Classes will be led by

Derrick Iwata and Elliot Peters

along with associate dancers

All levels of dancers,  
young and old,  
are all welcome!

**Masks are required!**

Due to COVID concerns,  
refreshments will

NOT be served!

Bring your own water!



## BWA News and Events

### SIX MAJOR SERVICES: ROKUDAI HOYOU

In Jodo Shinshu, six major services are honored, and they occur in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November. January is Hoonko, which is in honor of Shinran Shonin's death. March is spring Higan, spring equinox when the day and night are of the same amount of time. "The other shore" is another interpretation. May is Gotane, Shinran's birthday celebration that we honor annually. July through August is Obon, honoring the deceased and having our annual Bon dance. September is Higan, when the day and night are of the same amount of time as in the month of March. November is Eitaikyo, when we honor all the deceased members.

In Jodo Shinshu, living is very important, and at the same time, we try to remember our past ancestors, teachers, friends, and others who are in our memory. Eight hundred years ago when Shinran Shonin said that all human beings have GAS, I am sure no one believed that 800 years later in year 2022 we are full of GAS in reality. You remember, G stands for greed, A stands for anger, and S stands for stupidity. There are so many so-called-leaders who exhibit GAS today.

### YOUR HEALTH: TAKE PERSONAL CONTROL OF YOUR OWN HEALTH

Studies have shown that more than half of all cancer deaths could be prevented or delayed by taking actions to protect your own health.

1. Stop using tobacco products. About one third of all cancer deaths are due to the use of tobacco products. Quit using as soon as you can. Right now.

2. Eat a healthy diet. Studies show that large consumption of red meat, preserved meats, salt-preserved meats increase the risk of stomach and colorectal cancers, while diet high on fruits and vegetables

decrease the risks of these cancers.

3. Maintain a healthy weight and get plenty of physical activity: Being overweight has been linked to increased cancer risk in breast cancer, endometrial cancer, and cancers of the kidney, colon, and esophagus. Losing weight and exercising at least 30 minutes a day will help.

4. Reduce or eliminate your use of alcohol: Men should not have more than two drinks a day, women should stay with just one drink or none.

5. Avoid the midday sun and protect your skin with a hat, shirt, and sunscreen. If possible, avoid sun exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

### PREVENT OBESITY IN CHILDREN: TRIGGERS EXTENSIVE HEALTH ISSUES

During the first year of the pandemic, an American Psychological Association survey reported that children and teens jumped to 22% from 19% in weight gain. Children's excess belly fat infiltrates organs and causes arterial stiffness. That sets them up for high blood pressure, premature heart attacks and strokes, impotence, decreased cognition and increased risk of mental health issues. Type 2 diabetes is a very scary condition in youth. This disease occurs during the growing years and attacks the brain, the kidneys, the bones, and the liver. If your child is obese, talk to your pediatrician and start a family exercise program and consult a nutritionist. Prepare meals that replace processed and red meats and cut added sugar and saturated trans fats. Keep your children healthy.

### HISTORY OF BUDDHISM IN KUSHAN EMPIRE

The city of Bamyan was part of the Buddhist Kushan Empire. There were three colossal statues of Buddhas

## Fujiko Motobu



carved four thousand feet apart. One was 175 feet high, the world's tallest standing statue of Buddha.

The statues were carved during the Kushan period, 5th century. They were destroyed by the Taliban in March, 2001 on grounds they were an affront to Islam, even though they were left intact by Muslim rulers for 1200 years. Limited efforts have been made to rebuild them. At one time, 2,000 monks meditated in the sand stone cliffs. The world's oldest oil paintings were discovered in casts behind the destroyed statues. Scientists have confirmed that the oil paintings are probably of walnut or poppy seed oils.

A man was crossing a road one day when a frog called out to him and said, "If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful princess." He bent over, picked up the frog, and put it in his pocket. The frog spoke up again and said, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a beautiful princess, I will tell everyone how smart and brave you are and how you are my hero." The man took the frog out of his pocket, smiled at it, and returned it to his pocket.

The frog then cried out, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a princess, I'll stay with you for a year and do ANYTHING you want." Again the man took the frog out, smiled at it, and put it back into his pocket.

Finally the frog asked. "What is the matter? I've told you I'm a beautiful princess and that I'll stay with you for a year and do anything you want. Why won't you kiss me?"

The man said, "Look, I'm a computer programmer. I don't have time for a girlfriend, but a talking frog is cool."

## Living in a Bright Darkness

Extremely difficult is it to put an end to our evil nature; the mind is like a venomous snake or scorpion. Our performance of good acts is also poisoned; hence, it is called false and empty practice.

This is what our founder Shinran Shonin explained about himself. He was one of the most well-known religious leaders in the Kamakura period Japan, and he was extremely strict and sincere about his true self. He carefully evaluated his emotional dynamics and realized that all his actions were poisoned by his self-centered passions. Those passions are considered things we need to get rid of to reach the true enlightenment. However, Shinran

Shonin didn't say that it was removed; rather, he realized that those bonno (obstructed passions) were unable to be removed from him.

I often reflect that living a life of Jodo Shinshu teachings is like going down the spiritual steps of our mind and heart. Other people may not be able to tell from the outside, but we have various emotions hiding behind our social face. It is possible that anger is hiding behind harmony, arrogance is hiding behind modesty, fear is hiding behind bravery, and sadness is hiding behind smiles. These emotions are hidden intentionally or unintentionally,

## Acting Rimban Yuika Hasebe

consciously or unconsciously. Because the majority of us are living for our own survival, ultimately, all our emotions can arise from self-centeredness and not from complete purity. The self-centeredness is what Shinran Shonin called "poison."

The spiritual journey to going down into our heart is not easy. We would see things we don't want to see within ourselves, and it would sometimes make us frightened or disappointed. It may require tremendous effort and courage. As we go down, our surroundings would get darker and darker, and eventually, we would reach the point that we are not sure where we are, but the path still continues.

Jodo Shinshu teachings, which were revealed by Shinran Shonin, do not just make us aware of the darkness within us. This is one of the amazing things about Jodo Shinshu teachings because as we are going down to our spiritual darkness and find out that we are in the darkness, simultaneously, we are made to realize that we are illuminated by the Great Light.

Through the experience, he sincerely faced his darkness called bonno (obstructed passions) and he wrote a poem.

Obstructions (obstructed passions) of  
karmic evil turn into virtues;  
It is like the relation of ice and water:  
The more the ice, the more the water;  
The more the obstructions,  
the more the virtues.

The darkness is cognized in the light; the light also cognized only in the darkness. Instead of leaving and abandoning people who suffer with their unremovable and uncontrollable passions, Amida Buddha sees such people as true targets of salvation. I can't even imagine the joy of Shinran Shonin when he encountered the brightest Light in his darkest place. The same Light that embraced Shinran Shonin is now illuminating us and embracing us along with our darkness. Namo Amida Butsu

Sponsored by the Honolulu & Oahu Hongwanji Councils and the Office of Buddhist Education

**2022 FALL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR**

**Creating Dharma Moments Together:  
E KOMO MAI!**

**"WELCOME...COME IN!"**

**OCTOBER 23, 2022 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM HST**

**LET'S ALL TALK STORY...**

Join us for a fascinating session as we share ideas about creating Dharma experiences together to make our temples more inviting to all ages.



**SENSEI KOICHI MIZUSHIMA, BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SACRAMENTO**



**Brad & Joy Nakamura**



**Cristina Gervais**



**Kieran Maesaka**

**Donations are welcome.**

Funds will be designated to Buddhist Education.

\*Please make donation checks payable to: Honolulu Hongwanji Council. Mail registration and checks to: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, 1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96813



**Deadline:  
Sun. October 16**

\*Please note that the seminar will be recorded & uploaded. If you do not wish to be shown, please keep your video off during the seminar. Thank you!

**QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT HAWAII BETSUIN (808) 536-7044**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Temple/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this Seminar? ☐ My Temple (email / newsletter) ☐ Temple or other Website ☐ Social Media ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one OR if other, pls indicate in space

Questions for panel: \_\_\_\_\_



## Queen Lili'uokalani's Birthday Celebration, Soldier's Chapel

Jon K. Matsuoka

Reverend Hasebe and I were invited to attend Queen Lili'uokalani's 184th birthday celebration at Soldier's Chapel, Schofield Army Base. In attendance were Reverend Kaleo Patterson who organized the event, the Royal Order of Kamehameha, the Onipa'a organization that commemorates the overthrow at Iolani Palace, kahu representing a variety of Hawaiian Christian churches, and military leaders. Reverend Yamamura of Myohoji Mission Nichiren-Shu, who offered a beautiful opera vocal, was also in attendance. The program consisted of a number of oli and songs including one offered by vocalist Starr Kalahiki, and a litany of remembrances and story sharing.

Reverend Hasebe offered a very nice story of when the Queen attended Shinran Shonin's birthday celebration at Fort Lane Temple (which preceded the Pali Temple) on May 19, 1901. Her appearance had great significance to

the community of Japanese immigrants who were not only struggling to adapt to life in Hawai'i, but as Buddhists, were also frowned upon by Christian missionaries who tried to convince the Queen to do the same. But she was an advocate of religious freedom and diversity and was more highly influenced by advisor Mary Mikahala Robinson Foster. It is long suspected that Mary Foster (of Foster Botanical Gardens), who became a Buddhist, bequeathed the land or sold it at a nominal amount where Kyodan and Betsuin were built.

We owe a debt of gratitude to both Queen Lili'uokalani and Mary Foster. Since then, however, social

forces moved the local Japanese and Native Hawaiian communities in different directions and the long and rich history was mostly forgotten. A hundred years later we are striving to cultivate stronger ties between the Hawaiian community and Hawai'i Betsuin and we draw inspiration from these deeds of long ago. As we proceed forward in this work, we realize there is little distinction between the things we believe in and strive for.



### Maluhia Services continued from page 1

tive thinking. One was giving the resident incense without touching the incense in the box with our hands and the other was handing the resident a nenju to use during the service. The incense problem was resolved by using a plastic spoon provided by the Maluhia kitchen to transfer a small amount of incense from the incense box to the resident's hand and the nenju concern was addressed by using clip to pick up the nenju and give it to the staff who assisted the resident with placing it on their wrist or placing it in their hand to hold. Mahalo to the staff at Maluhia for their assistance! It was good to see everyone again! We'll see you next month!



## Mahalo to Sharyn Sekine

The Hawai'i Betsuin office staff is very grateful to Sharyn Sekine for volunteering to work at the reception desk once a week when we are short staffed. We would like to encourage other board members and sangha members, who are so inclined, to offer similar time and support to sign up and lend a hand. The tasks are not difficult and instructional support will be provided. Those of you who might be interested, please contact our Business Manager, Ashleigh Ito, for more information! Executive Director, Jon Matsuoka, asked Sharyn about her volunteer experience. Mahalo!

### • How long have you been a volunteer at Hawai'i Betsuin?

I first started volunteering at the Betsuin in the early 1980s as a dharma school teacher. Over the years, I have been an active volunteer at the Betsuin participating in a wide range of activities. I have been volunteering in the Betsuin office since October 2021. Just after the change in executive directors, there was a need for help because the office was shorthanded. But before volunteering in the office, I had done different kinds of volunteering at the temple. I taught Dharma School for over 15 years and have been a choir member off and on for over 20 years. I have been an active member of our BWA since 2001 and have been a member of the Betsuin board for over 10 years.

### • Why did you decide to volunteer?

Years ago, there was a core of 6 women that volunteered in the office. I admired them because they did so much, and also supported the ministers. I thought it was a good thing to do because they were a big support. I thought to myself, "I can spare one day a week to give to Betsuin." Also, I know how to do office work since I did it at my other job.

### • What are your duties?

I can't name them all because there are the main things and then other things that come up spontaneously. There is a wide range of things to do. I answer the

telephone and take messages, as well as schedule memorial and funeral services. I enjoy greeting people that come to the office. Most come for the nokotsudo (columbarium) and I take them there. I enjoy meeting them and getting to know them. I do other clerical tasks that Colleen needs help with. Every time I come to the office I learn something new.

### • What do you see as the positives of volunteering?

I'm learning more about the daily operations and developing a deeper understanding and appreciation of the office and how it functions. I'm learning a great deal about procedures and policies. For example, things related to the nokotsudo and how its organized, how to schedule and the cost of services; the little ins and outs. An interesting thing I learned is that a service can be held without people such as family members attending — only ministers. During the pandemic, ministers did services over the phone and Zoom. So, I learned about what was possible and how they could make adjustments when necessary. Ministers are very flexible and know how to meet the needs of members.

It's a great opportunity to get to know the personnel in the office — the min-

isters, staff, and others that come to visit. I also have been able to connect with old friends who I haven't seen for a long time. Even those who have moved away and return to visit the temple, or those who have lived away and move back to Hawai'i. What's especially nice is to see people that I haven't seen because of the pandemic, and now they're starting to come back.



### • What do you see as the negatives of volunteering?

I can't think of anything negative. Maybe it takes up one day of the week but that's okay. There aren't many negatives to volunteering. Perhaps the only negative is driving through

traffic, but it's not too bad because I don't live that far. Oh, and one day out of the week I cannot sleep in.

### • What would you tell those who are considering volunteering at Hawai'i Betsuin?

I say that if you have the time it's a really wonderful experience. It's a great opportunity to get better acquainted with how the temple operates, and get to know the staff and ministers and for them to get to know you. You get an insider's view of what really happens here. Everyone affiliated with the temple, including Board members, should have the experience so that they really know and can appreciate what the staff does. People who don't know because they see things from the outside tend to take things for granted.

Everything is connected and little things that aren't done the right way affects other things down the line. That means more work for the staff. Being at the temple, even one day a week, gives a very different orientation.





## Girl Scouts Hold Annual Registration Event

Five Honpa Hongwanji Girl Scout troops held their annual Registration Event on August 14, 2022. All of the scouts and leaders were thankful to be back in person, as over 120 returning, new, and potential scouts and their parents/guardians attended.

Being girl-led, the older scout troops welcomed new and potential scouts and guided the younger troops in the earning of their first badge of the year. Cadettes split into two groups, helping the Daisies earn the Good Neighbor Badge and the Brownies earn the Dancer Badge. The Senior Ambassador scouts helped the Juniors earn

their Flowers Badge. Everyone had a great time getting reacquainted with their fellow sister scouts and making new friends! The younger scouts really enjoyed spending time with their big sister scouts.

Recruitment flyers invited students from Hongwanji Mission School, Ma'ema'e Elementary, and Nuuanu Elementary. As always, our scouts were great sister scout role models, making newcomers feel welcome and included. We were happy to welcome 14 new young girls into our Honpa Girl Scout troops.

Christina Shioi,  
Brownie/Daisy Troop Leader



Older scouts also went troop to troop to encourage more scouts to participate in the Advocacy Group, where there are representatives from each troop who plan, decide, and implement activities that bring all five Girl Scout troops together. This is what sets Honpa Girl Scouts apart from other Girl Scout troops. These budding, young leaders are truly exercising their voice and collaborative skills!

Honpa Girl Scouts are looking forward to finally being able to attend events and meetings in person! Our next event is Investiture on October 23, 2022, where new scouts promise and returning scouts rededicate themselves to scouting.

## We're Collecting Aloha Shirts

The Betsuin BWA continues to collect aloha shirts for distribution to our military serving overseas. Please contact Jo desMarets ([purpleldy2@aol.com](mailto:purpleldy2@aol.com)) to donate aloha shirts or for more information!

See Facebook photos of our heroes receiving their Aloha Shirts while serving in remote locations around the world!

**"Hawaiian Shirts  
for Deployed Soldiers"**



**Annual  
Temple Clean-Up  
Is Scheduled  
for Sunday  
November 20, 2022**

## Scouting News:



## Boy Scout Troop 49

Dillon Pang, Troop 49

Troop 49 kicked off the month of August with a post summer camp clean-up. Scouts cleaned up their equipment and took note what needed to be repaired or replaced and repacked everything into their patrol boxes. Not exactly an exciting way to start the month but a necessary step to be ready and prepared for the next camp.

The new incoming leadership team was selected on August 12. Troop elections have always been a very significant event in the Troop's history. This new group of scouts will be responsible for running the Troop for the next six (6) months. Once the Troop elects a Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) the new SPL then selects his leadership team. Leading the Troop for the next six months will be:

Senior Patrol Leader: Caden Matsumoto  
 Assist Senior Patrol Leader: Vincent Saito  
 Assistant Senior Patrol Leader: Darian Pang  
 Troop Guide: Ty Sunahara  
 Webmaster: Davin Okino  
 Quartermaster: Dillon Pang  
 Quartermaster: Dylan Uchino  
 Scribe: Davin Nakasato  
 Den Chief: PJ Lau

Shark Patrol:  
 Patrol Leader: Caleb Sawai  
 Assistant Patrol Leader: Trevor Ota

Cobra Patrol:  
 Patrol Leader: Talin Giang  
 Assistant Patrol Leader: Ty Shibata

Eagle Patrol:  
 Patrol Leader: Caden Fujino  
 Assistant Patrol Leader: Cohen Sakamoto

August's theme, "Sports," was led by the Eagle Patrol. Kickball was first on the list. It taught the scouts skills including teamwork, critical thinking, as well as foot-eye coordination. Caden Matsumoto (SPL) kicked a sky rocket during this meeting, showing that his soccer skills could translate into kickball. This meeting was great, giving Badgers (younger scouts) a way to keep up with the older scouts, knowing that most Badgers enjoy playing soccer in their free time.

Orienteering Hide and Seek, was the following week. It was the first time this activity was introduced to the scouts, and something the scouts never would have expected to play. They were tasked with creating two paths to finding their hiding spot, one fake, and one real. They then proceeded to try to find each other, using the directions given. At the end of the meeting, the winner was chosen based on who could find a team the fastest. This idea was very creative, using a childhood game we all love (hide and seek) and combining it with a Boy Scout method/skill (orienteering).

That's all for now... be on the look out for more exciting news from Troop 49....

**SPECIAL NOTE:**

Let us give special recognition to Tenderfoot Scout Cohen Sakamoto. Cohen recently played on the Hawaii Little League World Series championship team that won the World Series title. Cohen really made an impact with his pitching and hitting and made many lifetime memories on his month long journey. Most important of all he represented Hawaii and the Troop very well.

"If you put in the work and love what you do, the results will show"  
 - Cohen Sakamoto

Troop 49 also had another Scout reach the highest level of his sport. Davin Okino also played in a World Series and did well. They didn't get as far and as much notoriety but reaching this level in any sport is a major accomplishment. Congratulations to Cohen and Davin!

## Headquarters Connections

'Headquarters Updates' and 'Ka Leo Kāhea' (The Calling Voice) newsletters are available at [News & Announcements](#) ☞ [Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii](#)



### HHMH Statement on Environmental Harmony

**Joint Statement by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and  
Steve Lohse, Chair of the Green Hongwanji Committee,  
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii**

September 9, 2022

"We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness." ☞ Thich Nhat Hanh

We experience rapid, extreme environmental change as crises, and when our environment is in crisis, we suffer. We depend on the environment for everything, including stable climate, public health, clean air and water, energy, fertile soil, healthy food, land and sea resources, and the biodiversity that underlies sustainability. Environmental crises give rise to social, economic, political, and spiritual crises that in turn further degrade the environment. We are inescapably interdependent with the environments that we abuse as well as with the environments that we protect.

The causes of environmental crises are not external threats, we do this to ourselves. As our sheer numbers, consumer expectations, and developing technologies combine to overwhelm natural systems, we are witnessing an era of transition from life defined by natural processes to environments defined by human activity. Sadly, it is increasingly clear that greed, anger, ignorance, and ego-driven human activities are out of harmony with sustainable natural systems. Meanwhile, global responses to environmental degradation remain inadequate and directed largely at symptoms rather than causes.

As Buddhists, we see a way forward. We see that environmental harmony arises from Interdependence and from addressing root causes of environmental crises ☞ our own greed, anger, and ignorance. We see that inner transformation, from ego-driven thinking to Dharma-guided entrusting, prepares us to understand and commit to wise, compassionate, effective action for environmental harmony. Just as Buddha touched the Earth as bearing witness to Enlightenment, so we touch the Earth to bear witness to Dharma guidance that inspires us to engage in skillful environmental action as an Earth Touching Sangha.

David Loy said, "Engagement in the world is how our personal awakening blossoms." As we go to the Dharma for guidance to live in harmony and sustainability with our precious planet, we commit to the following:

- understanding the inherently interdependent, holistic nature of Buddhism;
- transforming environmental actions by first transforming environmental thinking;
- teaching clean, healthy, sustainable environments as a basic human right;
- acting effectively, always informed by Cause/Effect and scientific best practices;
- supporting sustainable societies based on social/economic/environmental equity, universal human rights, respect for nature and for future generations, and a culture of peace.



In Gassho,

Bishop Eric Matsumoto, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, a Shin Buddhist Denomination of Pure Land Buddhism;

Steve Lohse, Chair, HHMH Green Hongwanji Committee (GHC)

*"Headquarters Connections" is curated by Steve Lohse and Cindy Alm.*



## Radio Programs OCTOBER 2022

Japanese Language,  
SATURDAY AT 7:30 AM

- 01 Rev. Daido Baba
- 08 Rev. Kiyobnobi Kuwahara
- 15 Rev. Ryoso Toshima
- 22 Rev. Ryuta Furumoto
- 29 Rev. Mieke Majima

### OCTOBER SPEAKERS

Please see page 2

### Information Regarding Sunday Services

Attendee limits for in-person funerals and memorial services are now based on room capacity and families' comfort levels. Other service options are available. Please call the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044 for current information and to plan for your family's needs.

The 10 a.m. English-language services (as well as the occasional 9:30 a.m. combined services) are now open to in-person attendees. A Zoom option continues to be available. Also, the 8 a.m. in-person Japanese language services have resumed. The Betsuin Dharma School resumed on September 11, 2022..

Many past services are available for replay on the Hawaii Betsuin YouTube channel. For current information on Betsuin services, including Zoom connection details, see the online calendar at [hawaiibetsuin.org](http://hawaiibetsuin.org). You may also check the Betsuin Bulletin sent by email on Fridays (subscribe at [hawaiibetsuin.org/email-signup/](http://hawaiibetsuin.org/email-signup/)). Or, call the office at (808) 536-7044.



## In Memoriam August 2022



The Hawai'i Betsuin extends its deepest sympathy to the families of the following members who recently passed away. May the family members and friends find solace and comfort in the Nembutsu. Namo Amida Butsu

### 2020

- 6/5/2020 KAWASAKI, James Masao (88)
- 7/11/2020 KOBORI, Edith Setsuko (94)

### 2021

- 1/27/2021 KAWAMOTO, Lyle Yasuo (64)

### August 2022

- 8/11/2022 YONESHIGE, Shoji (98)
- 8/21/2022 MOCHIZUKI, Frances Yasuko (96)
- 8/24/2022 NAKANO, Barbara Sanae (86)
- 8/30/2022 YASUNAGA, Nora Namiko (75)

**MALUHIA HAS RESUMED MONTHLY  
SERVICES every 3rd Wed at 10:00 a.m.**

**All other nursing Home Services  
remain cancelled until further notice.**

### 2022 Memorial Service Schedule

2022 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2021: 1st year	2010: 13th year	1990: 33th year
2020: 3rd year	2006: 17th year	1973: 50th year
2016: 7th year	1998: 25th year	1923: 100th year



The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of un-hindered light. This practice, comprehensively encompassing all practices, is perfect and most rapid in bringing them to fullness. For this reason, it is called "great practice." Saying the Name then breaks through all the ignorance of sentient beings and readily brings all their aspirations to fulfillment. Saying the Name is in itself mindfulness; mindfulness is nembutsu; nembutsu is Namo-amida-butsu.

-Shinran Shonin